

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

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Serial No.: 10/008,649

Filing Date: 11/9/2001

Attorney Docket No. 100.338US01

Title: TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed the Office Action mailed on February 10, 2005 as well as the art cited. Claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14 and 16 have been amended and claims 17-24 have been added. As a result claims 1-24 are currently pending in this application.

Drawing Objections

Examiner objected to the figures. The Examiner withdrew this rejection based on a phone call with Ms. Beth Bauer on 4/18/2005 wherein she informed the Examiner that formal drawings were submitted March 21, 2002.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-11, 13 and 16 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being unpatentable over Miller, (U.S. Patent No. 5,511,067). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1

Claim 1 as amended is directed to an architecture for a telecommunications device. Claim 1, as amended, is comprised of a plurality of operational modules, a plurality of application interfaces (API), each API providing functionality for one of the plurality of operational modules, wherein each API is broadly defined to allow operation of multiple driver sets depending upon a desired driver for the system, wherein the plurality of operational modules are adapted to be modified without affecting the operation of the plurality of application interfaces.

Miller does not teach or suggest the architecture of claim 1. In particular, Miller does not teach or suggest wherein the plurality of operational modules are adapted to be modified without affecting the operation of the plurality of application interfaces as found in claim 1. As a result claim 1 is allowable.

Claim 2 depends from and further defines allowable claim 1 and is also allowable.

Claim 3

Claim 3 as amended is directed to an architecture for a telecommunications transport device. Claim 3, as amended, is comprised of an application layer, a framework layer, a

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hardware driver layer and a plurality of interfaces between each layer and each other layer providing interaction between the layers, wherein the architecture is adapted to be modified without affecting topcraton of the device.

Miller does not teach or suggest the architecture of claim 3. In particular, Miller does not teach or suggest wherein the architecture is adapted to be modified without affecting the operation of the device as found in claim 3. As a result claim 3 is allowable.

Claims 4 and 5 depend from and further define allowable claim 3 and are also allowable.

Claim 6

Claim 6 as amended is directed to an architecture for a telecommunications device.

Claim 6, as amended, is comprised of an application layer, a framework layer, a hardware layer and a plurality of interfaces between each layer and each other layer, wherein the architecture further comprises a plurality of modules capable of performing a function of the system, wherein the plurality of modules are adapted to be modified without affecting operation of the plurality of interfaces.

Miller does not teach or suggest the architecture of claim 6. In particular, Miller does not teach or suggest wherein the plurality of modules are adapted to be modified without affecting the operation of the plurality of interfaces as found in claim 6. As a result claim 6 is allowable.

Claim 7

Claim 7 as amended is directed to a modular architecture for a telecommunications system. Claim 7, as amended, is comprised of a plurality of function modules supported by a driver set and a plurality of application interfaces broadly defined to support the driver set for its respective function module, wherein the plurality of function modules are adapted to be modified without affecting topcraton of the plurality of application interfaces.

Miller does not teach or suggest the modular architecture of claim 7. In particular, Miller does not teach or suggest wherein the plurality of function modules are adapted to be modified without affecting the operation of the plurality of application interfaces as found in claim 7. As a result claim 7 is allowable.

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Claim 8

Claim 8 as amended is directed to a method for defining a telecommunications system architecture. Claim 8, as amended, is comprised of defining a plurality of driver sets for each of a plurality of functions of the system, each of the plurality of driver sets supporting at least one driver for a respective function module, selecting a subset of the plurality of system functions; and applying one of the at least one driver of each driver set to its respective function module through an application interface layer between the driver and the function module, and modifying the respective function module without affecting the operation of the system.

Miller does not teach or suggest the method of claim 8. In particular, Miller does not teach or suggest modifying the respective function module without affecting the operation of the system as found in claim 8. As a result claim 8 is allowable.

Claim 9 depends from and further defines allowable claim 8 and is also allowable.

Claim 10

Claim 10 as amended is directed to a method of making configuration changes in a telecommunications system. Claim 10, as amended, is comprised of defining a plurality of application interfaces facilitating communication between a driver set and a function module of the system, wherein each of the application interfaces supports a broadly defined set of operations within a predefined category of operations for a function module, selecting a driver from the driver set for each of the function modules; and applying the selected driver to its respective function module through its respective application interface, and modifying the function module without affecting operation of the system.

Miller does not teach or suggest the method of claim 10. In particular, Miller does not teach or suggest and modifying the function module without affecting operation of the system as found in claim 10. As a result claim 10 is allowable.

Claim 11

Claim 11 as amended is directed to a method of operating a telecommunications system. Claim 11, as amended, is comprised of defining a plurality of application interfaces providing an interface between a driver module and the system and applying one of a set of drivers to each of

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the plurality of application interfaces depending upon a predetermined driver need, and modifying the driver module without affecting the operation of the system.

Miller does not teach or suggest the method of claim 11. In particular, Miller does not teach or suggest modifying the driver module without affecting the operation of the system as found in claim 11. As a result claim 11 is allowable.

Claim 13 depends from and further defines allowable claim 11 and is also allowable.

Claim 16

Claim 16 as amended is directed to a method of communicating between a plurality of individual modules in a telecommunications system. Claim 16, as amended, is comprised of defining a driver layer containing a plurality of drivers for a plurality of system modules, wherein each of the system modules performs a specific system operation, defining a plurality of application interfaces, an application interface between one of the plurality of drivers in the driver layer of the system and one of the system modules defined to support a predetermined set of system functions, and modifying at least one of the system modules without affecting the operation of the system.

Miller does not teach or suggest the method of claim 16. In particular, Miller does not teach or suggest and modifying at least one of the system modules without affecting the operation of the system as found in claim 16. As a result claim 16 is allowable.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 12, 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller in view of Parker (U.S. Patent No. 5,822,520). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 12 depends from allowable claim 11 and as a result is also allowable. In addition, since the Applicant believes this dependant claim is allowable for the above reason. Further response to other rejections may not have been put forth in this response. The Applicant, however, retains the right to address said rejections if a further response is required.

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Claim 14

Claim 14 as amended is directed to a machine readable medium having machine readable instructions for causing a computer to perform a method. Claim 14, as amended, is comprised of defining a plurality of application interfaces, each application interface providing an interface between a driver module and the system, and applying one of a set of drivers to each of the plurality of application interfaces depending upon a predetermined driver need, and modifying the driver without affecting the operation of the system.

Applicant does not find motivation to combine Parker with Miller. Parker is directed towards generating network test packets for network communication development tools. (Col. 2, lines 42-46) This is in contrast to the method of claim 14. Further neither Miller nor Parker alone or in combination teach or suggest the method of claim 14. In particular, neither Miller nor Parker teach or suggest modifying the driver module without affecting operation of the system as found in claim 14. As a result, claim 14 is patentable over Miller in view of Parker and should be allowed.

Claim 15 depends from and further defines allowable claim 14 and is also allowable.

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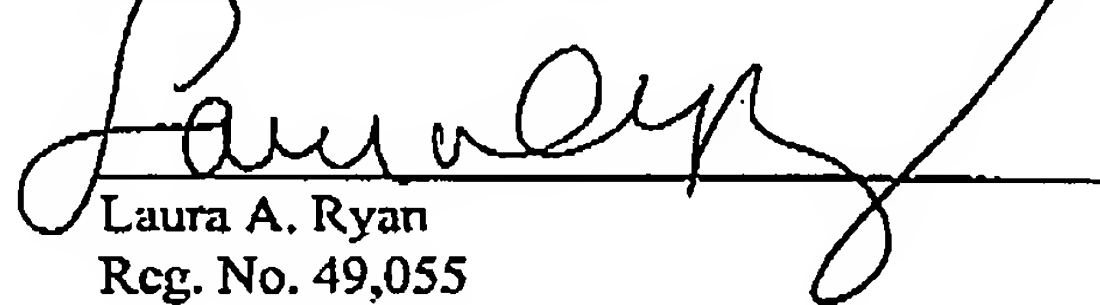
CONCLUSION

Claims 1-24 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 502432.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at 612-455-1685.

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Respectfully submitted,


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